

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAMAKO 00216 200010Z

71

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 USIA-15 AS-01 /027 W

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R 191110Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3076

UNCLAS BAMAKO 216

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, ML (SISSOKO, MORIBA)

SUBJ: FY-76 IV NOMINATION

EMBASSY NOMINATES MORIBA SISSOKO, DIRECTOR OF CABINET, MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOR A 30-DAY IV GRANT. BIO-DATA, JUSTIFICATION AND PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS FOLLOW:

1. NAME: MORIBA SISSOKO

2. PRESENT POSITION: DIRECTOR OF CABINET, MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT, SINCE JUNE 1973.

FORMER POSITIONS: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, INSTITUT POLYTECHNIQUE RURAL DE KATIBOUGOU, 1971-73; PROFESSOR, INSTITUT POLYTECHNIQUE RURAL DE KATIBOUGOU, 1966-71.

3. PERSONAL DATA: BORN DECEMBER 23, 1938 IN BAMAKO; MARRIED, NO CHILDREN, ADDRESS: VILLA NO. 54, CITE SCOLAIRE, BAMAKO; EMERGENCY ADDRESS: MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT, BAMAKO.

EDUCATION: LYCEE TERRASSON, BAMAKO, 1958; UNIVERSITY FANN, DAKAR, 1959 INSTITUT AGRONOMIQUE Kouban, USSR, DIPLOME D'INGENIEUR AGRONOME, 1965; DOCTEUR EN AGRONOMIE, 1971.

HONORARY TITLES, NONE; PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, NONE.

HOBBIES: READING, CINEMA

PUBLICATIONS: NUMEROUS ARTICLES IN NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES

TRAVEL: USSR 1961-65; SENEGAL (SEVERAL TIMES); FRANCE, BELGIUM, SWITZERLAND AND ITALY, 1973-75.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BAMAKO 00216 200010Z

4. KNOWLEDGE OF ENGLISH; READING, COMPREHENSION, SPEAKING POOR.

5. OTHER LANGUAGES: FLUENT IN RUSSIAN

6. JUSTIFICATION: WITH SOLID ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS AND CLEAR EXECUTIVE ABILITIES, MORIBA SISSOKO HAS MOVED RAPIDLY FROM TEACHER, TO ADMINISTRATOR TO DEPUTY MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT, A KEY POSITION IN MALI'S EFFORTS TOWARD DROUGHT RECOVERY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. A DEDICATED PROFESSIONAL, SISSOKO ENJOYS THE RESPECT OF PEERS AND SUPERIORS AS WELL AS U.N. AND MANY EMBASSY OFFICIALS FROM VARIOUS NATIONS WHO WORK WITH HIM. AS DIRECTOR OF CABINET HE IS THE FIRST POINT OF CONTACT BETWEEN AID AND EMBASSY OFFICERS IN THE AREA OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO MALI. ALTHOUGH A MAJOR GOVERNMENT-WIDE MINISTERIAL SHAKE-UP LAST SEPTEMBER SAW MANY OFFICIALS REMOVED, SISSOKO WAS ONE OF THE FEW TO REMAIN IN HIS POSITION, AMPLE EVIDENCE OF HIS STAYING POWER AND THE RESPECT AND ADMIRATION HE ENJOYS IN THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT. AT AGE 38 SISSOKO IS STILL A RELATIVELY YOUNG LEADER WHO HAS THE POTENTIAL TO RISE TO POSITIONS OF STILL GREATER IMPORTANCE. GIVEN THE WIDESPREAD RESPECT HE ENJOYS, HE IS LIKELY TO REMAIN AN INFLUENTIAL FIGURE FOR MANY YEARS TO COME.

7. PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS: SISSOKO UNABASHEDLY ADMITS HIS IGNORANCE ABOUT THE UNITED STATES, BUT IS GENUINELY INTERESTED IN LEARNING OF ITS POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SYSTEMS. LIKE MANY MALIANS, HE IS AWED BY THE TREMENDOUS PRODUCTIVE CAPACITY OF AMERICAN AGRICULTURE. ALTHOUGH HE WOULD LIKE TO VISIT EXAMPLES OF THE MOST ADVANCED AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGIES, HE IS AWARE THAT A VISIT TO PUERTO RICO, WHERE THE LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT MORE NEARLY APPROACHES THAT OF MALI, WOULD BE PARTICULARLY USEFUL. IN THE U.S. HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE IRRIGATED AGRICULTURE IN THE SOUTHWEST; A CATTLE FEEDLOT; A MODERN FOOD PROCESSING CENTER; THE COUNTRY EXTENSION SERVICE SYSTEM; AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTERS; AND THE TVA. HE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO SEE THE SMITHSONIAN, THE U.N. A MAJOR UNIVERSITY, AND CULTURAL CENTERS.

8. SISSOKO SPEAKS ALMOST NO ENGLISH. AN ESCORT-INTERPRETER WILL BE REQUIRED. COFFEE AND ACIDIC FOODS SHOULD BE AVOIDED.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 BAMAKO 00216 200010Z

9. ALTERNATE: MAKAN KAYENTAO, DIRECTOR GENERAL, NATIONAL MINING COMPANY.
MCGUIRE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BAMAKO00216
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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From: BAMAKO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760146/aaaaboeq.tel
Line Count: 110
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: mendozsm
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 JUL 2004 by castelsl>; APPROVED <13 AUG 2004 by mendozsm>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FY-76 IV NOMINATION EMBASSY NOMINATES MORIBA SISSOKO, DIRECTOR OF CABINET, MINISTRY
TAGS: OEXC, ML, (SISSOKO, MORIBA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006